

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SY-05 USSS-00 SS-15 NSC-05 A-01

SAM-01 /044 W

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R 291145Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO USDEL ALEXANDRIA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6122

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: OVIP (BLACK, AMBASSADOR SHIRLY TEMPLE)

SUBJECT: ARRANGEMENTS FOR AMBASSADOR BALCK'S VISIT TO EGYPT

REF: USDEL ALEXANDRIA 125

1. LIKE USDEL ALEXANDRIA, EMBASSY WAS SOMEWHAT DISTURBED AT LACK OF PREPARATION FOR VISIT OF AMBASSADOR BLACK. WELL IN ADVANCE OF HER ARRIVAL AT AIRPORT, HANDLING OF WHICH BY MOFA AND PRESIDENCY BORE LITTLE RESEMBLANCE TO SMOOTHLY FUNCTIONING OPERATION AT WHICH WE HAVE BECOME ADEPT, IT WAS EVIDENT THAT NO ONE KNEW WHAT WAS GOING ON. EMBASSY'S ROLE, GIVEN OFFICIAL NATURE OF INVITATION, CONSISTED OF MANIFOLD EFFORTS TO DISCREETLY ENCOURAGE AND FACILITATE COORDINATION OF GOE'S OWN EFFORTS, AND HELP WHERE POSSIBLE. (PRESENCE OF EMBASSY EXPEDITOR AT AIRPORT, FOR EXAMPLE, PERMITTED WELCOMING DELEGATION, WHICH INCLUDED EMBOFF AS GUEST, TO CATCH UP WITH AMBASSADOR BLACK AND HER PARTY AT ENTRANCE TO AIRPORT, HAVING MISSED HER AT PLANESIDE. HE ALSO PREVENTED PRESIDENCY PERSONNEL FROM SENDING LUGGAGE OFF BY ITSELF.)

2. FOLLOWING SERIES OF TELEPHONE CALLS NEXT MORNING, DESIGNED TO REFLECT OUR INTEREST IN KNOWING PLANS, AND ASSISTED BY SIMILAR EFFORTS BY USDEL, GOE EVIDENTLY PULLED ITSELF TOGETHER, DESIGNATED AMBASSADOR SHASH AS INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBLE FOR PROGRAM, IN COORDINATION WITH PRESIDENCY, AND NOW SEEMS TO

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HAVE MATTERS IN HANDS. AT DINNER PARTY ON SEPTEMBER 28, #EMBOFF

WAS ASSURED THAT AMBASSADOR BLACK WOULD HAVE FULL PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES (MEETINGS AND TOURISM) WHILE WAITING FOR APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT SADAT. (FACT THAT APPOINTMENT WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL CONCLUSION OF NEGOTIATIONS, E.G. FOR SEVERAL DAYS, APPEARED UNKNOWN TO SHASH AND WAS NOT MENTIONED BY EMBOFF.)

3. AMBASSADOR BLACK, WHO KNOWS EGYPT AND HAS NUMEROUS FRIENDS HERE, APPEARS PERFECTLY CONTENT WITH WAY THINGS HAVE GONE UP TO NOW, AND IS AN EXTREMELY GRACIOUS GUEST. ONLY CASUALTY HAS BEEN MORALE OF EMBOFF, AS RESULT OF BEING INVOLVED IN SERIES OF EMBARRASSING SNAFUS OVER WHICH HE HAD NO CONTROL.

4. FYI. PROTOCOL OFFICER IN CHARGE OF VISIT LEFT CAIRO BEFORE ARRIVAL OF AMBASSADOR BLACK, NOT AFTER, AS MENTIONED REFTEL. HE NEVER MET HER.
EILTS

NOTE BY OC/T: # AS RECEIVED. SERVICE ON REQUEST.

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